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"Belfast" Marine Gaoled

London, Dec. 29. "Definitely not," was the reply given by a 17-year-old Portsmouth girl when asked at Winchester Assizes if she still wanted to marry the man in the dock, who had pleaded "guilty" to a charge of taking her away from her mother while she was under age.

She agreed that she had been fond of the man, Roy Voller, aged 20, a deserter from the Royal Marines, and had wanted to marry him. When asked by his counsel, Mr. Back, if she thought Voller was fond of her, she answered bitterly: "He said he was."

Voller, who asked for three cases of stealing, and one of false pretences to be taken into consideration, was sentenced by Mr. Justice Wrottesley to 12 months' imprisonment.

"I expect you show some sense," was the judge's comment when the girl said she did not want to marry Voller.

Mr. Back said that by the time Voller was 18 he had a record of active service of which any grown man might be proud. When 14, he joined the Marines in 1940, and in the following year was posted to H.M.S. Manchester, conveying in the Mediterranean. She was torpedoed and Voller, then 15, was posted to H.M.S. Emerald, and later to H.M.S. Belfast, on the Russian convoy route, in which he served until taking part in D-Day operations.

Passion For Sea

When, at the age of 18, Voller returned to shore duties he found the parade ground "routine irksome, and wanted to break his 12-year contract with the Marines. During the war he had formed a passion for the sea and wanted to go into the Merchant Navy.

His application to have his contract with the Royal Marines altered to a war-time one was rejected, and Voller, frustrated, seemed to go off the rails completely.

The two Spanish officers were sent back to Spain.—Reuter.

U.K. FUEL PROBLEM CRISIS Threat To Britain's Industrial Recovery Cabinet Greatly Concerned

London, Dec. 28.

The British fuel problem has reached crisis proportions, and is threatening not only the success of the country's export drive but her industrial recovery as a whole.

The threat of the great Austin automobile plant at Northfield, Birmingham, to close down last week brought matters to a head. Lack of coal is the main trouble, but another, nearly as serious, is the present insufficiency of electricity supply.

The two factors are inter-linked, and their impact upon the Labour Government's plans for socialisation of industry is causing the Cabinet the greatest concern.

Coal shortage nearly wrecked Britain's war effort. It is now the foremost challenge to her peace-time rehabilitation. The coal shortage dates back to 1940, when, after the fall of France, the British Government then in power permitted many miners to leave the pits and go into the Services or into munitions work.

A considerable number of these miners, after working above ground, were determined that they would never return to the

pits. The industry's manpower, therefore, is at its lowest.

Not Enough

With this minimum manpower, the Minister of Fuel and Power, Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, has been giving increased production in recent months, but the proportion of gain is not sufficient to meet the demand.

Labour's nationalisation of mines, which by its psychological effect was expected to increase output, has not done so noticeably, though Labour supporters argue that its benefit will be felt in the long-term stage.

The electricity supply shortage is not due to manpower shortage troubles; it is caused by the fact that Britain is using nearly 70 per cent more electricity than in 1939. Britain's war effort was largely built up on electricity, aided by the country's electric "grid" system, from which any district can be supplied.

Position Critical

Today, the electricity supply industry—which is about to be nationalised—is still working with plant badly in need of overhaul, and with insufficient new plant. Given sufficient turbines, generators, which Britain manufactures, as well as any country in the world, industry will not lack power.

But not even nationalisation can speed the rate of production of new generators. Ironically enough, this depends partly upon the supplies of electricity.

At the moment the position is critical. Each time there is a period of intense cold, people, for lack of coal, not only switch on electric fires but purchase extra fires. And the industry uses something like 20,000,000 tons of coal a year.—Reuter.

The reports said that the whole organisation was directed from Igurun in Spain and that the French police possessed complete documentary evidence of the spy ring's activities.

The organisation was reported to have recruited many agents among Frenchmen who, during the occupation were members of the Vichy Militia, and other "collaborationists".

The two Spanish officers were sent back to Spain.—Reuter.

AZORES QUAKE

Lisbon, Dec. 28. Several buildings in the village of Serreta were destroyed on Friday afternoon when three sharp earthquakes rocked Terceira Island in the Azores, it was reported here.

Three shocks occurred, within a period of half an hour. No casualties were reported.—United Press.

A widow with a home has the best chance of marrying these days in battered Berlin where there is a large excess of women over men as a result of the war, according to the city registrars.

Next to widows over 40 years of age, whose rate of marriage is described as "astoundingly high," women from the ages of 16 to 23 are considered to be those most likely to find husbands. In the latter age group, stenographers, secretaries and sales-women are given foremost chances of matrimony, not only because they meet more men but because of their usual good looks.

"A woman with good looks still has the best chance," the registrar in the suburb of Schoenholz said. "Formerly, many men married women for their money. Today, when no one has any property worth mentioning, this motive has been shunted into the background and good looks mean more."

Women between the ages of 25 and 35 have less hope of finding husbands, said the registrar, because the war has torn the greatest gap in the ranks of men of these ages.—Associated Press.

The parcel contained four Norwegian painting books and two boxes of crayons. Margaret's letter was written without the knowledge of her parents. The letter bore only a 2-1/2d stamp. The postage to Norway is 3d.

Margaret is now more than ever convinced that the only way of making sure of getting what she wants for Christmas is by personal application to Santa Claus.—Reuter.

Santa's letter read: "Dear Margaret. When I received your letter I immediately opened my book where I have noted the names of good children in

WINSTON TO JOSEF

London, Dec. 28. Mr. Winston Churchill sent greetings to Generalissimo Stalin on his 68th birthday last Saturday, it was disclosed today.

Churchill wired Stalin, "All personal good wishes on your birthday, my wartime comrade."

Stalin replied, "My warm thanks for your good wishes on my birthday."—United Press.

DRUG STORES WANTED

London, Dec. 29.

The Luton, Bedfordshire, Youth Council, after a survey, said that the young people of England want, among other things, drug stores patterned after those in the

United States, where they can gather socially—and they want more understanding and sympathy from their parents.

The report said some parents seem jealous of opportunities now offered to their sons and daughters, and take the stand: "We never had these opportunities, why should they?"

"War has had its effect on the nerves of the grown-up," said the Council, "so that parents are not so sympathetic toward leisure time.... there is a feeling that most parents are negative."

"Young people generally do not want estrangement. Understanding and sympathy are absolutely necessary in adolescence."

—Associated Press.

8th Army Corporal Murder

London, Dec. 28.

Thomas John Ley, 61-year-old former New South Wales Minister of Justice, described as a company director, was one of three men who appeared in a West London Magistrate's Court yesterday charged with the murder of a former Eighth Army corporal, John McBain Mudie.

The other two accused were John William Buckingham, 43, and Lawrence Smith, 39.

Mudie's body was found in a chalk pit in the country near London four weeks ago.

The three men were remanded in custody until next Friday.

After being demobilised, Mudie worked at a hotel in Regate, a small country town near London. He left the hotel one day and did not return. Later his body was found in the chalk pit with a rope round his neck.—Reuter.

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"Young people generally do not want estrangement. Understanding and sympathy are absolutely necessary in adolescence."

—Associated Press.

Soviet Surprise Proposal

New York, Dec. 29. Soviet Russia proposed in a surprise move today that the United Nations Security Council fix a three month time limit for drafting a worldwide arms reduction programme.

VALE APPELIUS

Rome, Dec. 29. Mario Appelius, 57, who shared honours with Virgilio Gaudia as Mussolini's chief propaganda mouthpiece, was found dead today of a brain tumor in a squalid apartment, in a sordidly furnished room.

In a letter to Secretary General Trygve Lie, Soviet Delegate Andrei Gromyko called for immediate action on the whole programme without waiting for final action on atomic control.

He submitted a formal resolution outlining the new Soviet proposals and asked that they be placed on the agenda of the Security Council's next meeting Dec. 31.

M. Gromyko proposed:

1. That the Security Council proceed with the working out of practical measures on the implementation of the General Assembly's decision of Dec. 14" on the general arms limitation plan as approved by the United Nations Assembly Dec. 14.

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SELF-GOVERNMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES

Practical Experiment In Lam Ma Village

Register For Jury Duty--Now!

Three-Day Holiday

Passage of China's Draft Constitution by the National Assembly will be celebrated by Chinese in Hong Kong with a three-day holiday for all schools and public organisations commencing on New Year's Day.

All shops, business houses, clubs and associations will display the National Flag for three days, and on New Year's Day a mass public meeting will be held at the King's Theatre when addresses will be made from the platform on the significance of the occasion.

Shortness of the notice from Nanking prevented a more elaborate display, as it was originally intended to hold also a lantern procession at night.

Rangoon, Dec. 29.

U Aung San, Deputy Chairman of the Burma Governor's Executive Council, warned the Burma "People's Volunteer Corps"—armed bands of young men in the service of the Burma Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League—to be prepared for an emergency if the London "independence talks" on the future of Burma failed.

Several firms and individuals have not yet registered and they are reminded that this has to be done on or before Jan. 1.

It is stressed that the full Christian names and not initials should be given, and also the private addresses of each member or employee of any particular firm registering.

Individuals who are members or employees of a firm are particularly requested not to send in separate registration but to see that their names are included in the firm list.

Jury forms may be had on application at the Registry, Supreme Court.

ORANGES'N APPLES

The local market will be flooded with American oranges and apples this week when strike-bound ships from the U.S. Pacific Coast arrive in close succession bringing much delayed cargo.

The s.s. "Lightning" due Jan. 2 is alone bringing an estimated cargo of over 10,000 cases.

A record drop in prices is expected, and importers have for sometime past been scratching their heads in anxiety as to how to get rid of the accumulated arrivals without serious loss.

Readers' Letters

Added

Sir.—The article written by Mrs. Hilda Selwyn-Clarke and published in your issue of December 29 struck me as being one of the best examples of added thinking I have yet come across.

The whole tone of the article appears to be that "American imperialism" in China should cease, only to be replaced by British imperialism. Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke becomes rhapsodic over Anglo-Chinese amity and then has the audacity to try to justify the retention of Hong Kong by the British.

She says that "The Chinese Communists have no intention of transplanting the Soviet model to China." I don't know which Communists Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke has been talking to, but those I talk to would take issue with this statement.

Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke further declares that "Britain has no policy in China" at the present time. Since Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke apparently is not aware of just what the British policy is, I leave the accuracy of her statement for such men as Sir Ralph Stevenson, Mr. Cyril Rogers, Sir Leslie Boyce and Sir Mark Young to judge.

She says Britain no longer has any responsibilities in China, and then criticizes America for the way in which it is attempting to carry out its responsibilities. Still later she says "It is time we (Brit-

YANKEE DOODLE

Washington, Dec. 28.

The Assistant Secretary of State, William Benton, today said that the rapid development of radio in the past 30 years makes it possible to "discuss" eventual elimination of illiteracy throughout the world.

Recently returned from the UNESCO conference in Paris, Benton said in a radio speech that revolutionized communications, low-priced publications and new techniques of mass education make it feasible "to broadcast a full account of world developments to nearly every person on the globe."—United Press.

NOWELL

Sir.—Your correspondent Carol in your Sunday issue sure said a mouthful. I thought the singing of carols by what appeared to be a crowd of semi-inebriates, disgusting. I don't know what our Chinese friends thought when they were told it was Christmas songs that were being sung.

L. T.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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SPECIAL DINNER

NEW YEAR'S EVE

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NEW YEAR'S DAY

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After the return of the Civil Administration to Hong Kong, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Mark Young, announced that H.M. Government had decided to grant the inhabitants of Hong Kong a greater measure of self-government. There was much satisfaction over the subsequent broadcast of His Excellency on Aug. 28 and as a result, all sections of the community took a keen interest in the question and freely expressed their views.

In the Lam Ma Village, New Territories, a practical experiment in self-government has already come into being. The experiment is being conducted under the supervision and direction of the District Officer.

Several of the nearby villages have elected well-educated and public spirited citizens to implement the scheme for self-government.

All arms which were previously used for the protection of the villages have been handed over to the person elected in order that necessary action might be taken for the protection of the villages.

At the moment, the place has become a happy centre of self-government.

His Excellency the Governor has paid a visit to the district and, in expressing pleasure over the efforts of the villagers, voiced the hope that the scheme would prove to be a lasting success.

The village of Lam Ma was selected for a practical experiment in self-government in con-

sequence of the inhabitants becoming dissatisfied with the manner in which a certain Ration Depot was handling the distribution of foodstuffs. The result was that the people were afforded an opportunity of expressing their views and of selecting another depot of their own choice to handle distribution of foodstuffs in an equitable manner.

On the same charge a girl of seventeen, Betty Jean Sheldon, of Beakes Hill-road, King's Norton, Birmingham, and a third woman, Mrs. Elsa Marion Warr, 26, of Livingstone-road, King's Heath, Birmingham, were fined £6 and £3 respectively.

He urged revival of the fighting spirit among Indonesians to meet the "quality" of the Dutch forces and asked his followers to send arms and supplies to the fighting fronts.

A Dutch army spokesman said the recent truce with the Dutch pending negotiations of an agreement recognizing the republic "was by no means an order to cease our struggle for independence."

The woman, Mrs. Gladys M. Nicieas, of Red Lion-street, Alvechurch, Worcestershire, was fined £10 at Birmingham Magistrates' Court for conveying articles to prisoners likely to help them to escape.

On the same charge a girl of

seventeen, Betty Jean Sheldon, of Beakes Hill-road, King's Norton, Birmingham, and a third woman, Mrs. Elsa Marion Warr, 26, of Livingstone-road, King's Heath, Birmingham, were fined £6 and £3 respectively.

Mrs. Warr, however, was fined another £10 for harbouring in her house an escaped German prisoner, Ernst Gehrke, who was eventually recaptured in a boat in the Channel near Dover last September.

Mr. M. P. Pugh, prosecuting, said the women had been associating with prisoners who had worked near Mrs. Warr's former

workshop.

The matter came to light because Miss Sheldon's father had complained about a German prisoner calling on her.

Mrs. Warr had told the police that she had not helped Gehrke to escape, but had only helped

German prisoner, Ernst Gehrke, who was eventually recaptured in a boat in the Channel near Dover last September.

The spokesman added that 10 shooting incidents had been reported Dec. 26 from Bandoeng and Soerabaja fronts alone.—Associated Press.

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ALLEGED RAPE OF GIRL BY TWO U. S. MARINES

Death Of Old Macao Resident

Macao, Dec. 27. The death occurred here on Wednesday of Francisco Xavier Anacleto da Silva after a long illness.

Of a well-known local family, Mr. da Silva was for many years an "elected chairman" of the Municipal Council, when that position was filled by popular will instead of by a single Government bill. His democratic personality earned him a seat in the Portuguese Parliament where as the Macao Representative, he fought for the betterment of conditions for the local boy. When the education of the local boy was at stake by an impending curtailment of the curriculum, he successfully opposed the measure. He was also a noted Roman Catholic and was commended by Pius X.

A resident of Hong Kong for a number of years, he was a member of the Hong Kong Shareholders' Association. He leaves a widow and children undergoing education in Portugal. —Our Own Correspondent.

"Portal To Portal" Suit

Philadelphia, Dec. 29. The United Steel Workers of America (CIO) filed the largest "portal to portal" suit yet entered—\$200,000,000 back pay—against the Bethlehem Steel Company and its parent firm, Bethlehem Steel Corp.

The demand, which is on behalf of 20 local unions with 13,000 members, may reach the \$500,000,000 mark when 27,000 other union members join the suit.—United Press.

LOST CARGO FOUND

Manila, Dec. 29. Several thousand tons of incoming cargo, considered to have been pilfered months ago, was found by custom inspectors clearing out Manila's pier for the expected arrival of a flood of freight from the United States and Europe during the next fortnight.

Thirty ships with 120,000 tons of cargo are expected to enter the harbour the next two weeks.

But the pier congestion will be greatly lessened compared with earlier this year, according to Customs Collector Alfredo de Leon who said 50,000 tons of sheltered cargo storage space is now available.—Associated Press.

TREASURE TROVE

San Francisco, Dec. 28. Two Australians have purchased rights to a blasted Japanese defense post at Lai, in New Guinea, for four dollars and hope to find medical equipment worth \$40,000, Radio Australia reported today.

They are also expected to find some 3,000 dead Japanese, as the defence post was blasted shut by the Australians during the fighting. Numerous Japanese were believed to have been trapped in the subterranean caverns.—United Press.

The United States Marine headquarters here issued the first statement regarding the alleged rape incident on Christmas Eve in which it disclosed that the second Marine involved had been arrested by MPs.

The United Press was reliably informed that the second Marine was identified last night and was immediately jailed by the Marine Police. It was also learned that he testified that the girl was known to both of them and they escorted her to the Peking Hotel from the YMCA Christmas Eve party and denied that they accosted her as she left the Pavilion Cinema.

The arrest followed a three days

Looking For Security

Baghdad, Dec. 29. Premier Nuri Al Said reiterated in a press statement yesterday Iraq's desire for good relations with Turkey and Iran, and for greater unity of Arab countries.

"Some newspapers refer to a so-called Eastern bloc of which I know nothing," the Premier's statement said. "Iran seeks security where possible and good relations with her neighbours, including Turkey and Iran."

"This is imperative because a neighbour is continuous while relations with more remote states change from time to time."—Associated Press.

NO ALIENS WANTED

Washington, Dec. 28. Clarence J. Brown, of Oregon, contender for the House Republican leadership, advocated a Congressional investigation to bar aliens and disloyal Americans from holding high offices in labour unions.

"It is important that organizations of such tremendous importance be headed by citizens of unquestioned loyalty," he said. He suggested that union leaders be required to take loyalty oaths.—United Press.

JOHN COLTON DEAD

Gainesville, Texas, Dec. 29. John Colton, 60, author of "Rain," "Shanghai Gestures" and other plays died today after a long illness.

Two of his surviving brothers, George, Jr., and Harvey, are specialists in shipping on Gen. Douglas MacArthur's staff in Tokyo.

Colton was born in Minneapolis but spent his boyhood in Japan.—Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28. Promoter Herman Taylor said today he has a definite arrangement with Joe Louis to defend his heavyweight boxing title next spring at Atlantic City, N.J. He indicated the opponent would be the winner of the bout between Joe Maxim and Joe Wolcott scheduled for Jan. 6.—United Press.

Fell In Love With His Half-Sister

London, Dec. 28.

The announcement that a soldier was planning to marry a girl to whom he had proposed was offered to Mr. Justice Hulbert at Stafford. As sizes in proof of his intention to end a disastrous association.

The judge was told that affection which had been entertained by the man, 29-year-old William Henry Davies, for his half-sister was ended.

He hoped on demobilisation to marry the other woman, Miss Katharine Smith, of Wolverhampton, for whom he had bought a ring. If that was not sufficient to break his association with his half-sister he was prepared to re-enlist in the Army. He did not wish to see his home again.

Living side by side in the dock, Davies, and his half-sister, Mary Florence Beards, had been separated, both belonging to Wolverhampton, but the social life of a strange new master Davies had pleased gullily to invest, and his half-sister to permit him the offence.

Mr. E. Terrell, prosecuting, explained that the two people had the same mother. Davies was born out of wedlock in 1917, and later his mother married John Edward Beards. Mary Florence Beards was born in lawful wedlock in 1920.

Davies went to live with his cousin, Mr. and Mrs. Beards and his half-sister, owing to their poor circumstances, were accommodated in an institution and in Wolverhampton Cottage Home.

Kissing

Mr. Terrell told how a police officer went to Phillip-street, Wolverhampton, to arrest Davies on a charge of being a deserter and found him and his half-sister embossed and kissing.

His explanation was that the police proved conclusively that there was a deep passion between them.

P.C. Larry said Davies' Army character was only fair. His half-sister had furnished the police with letters on which the charge was based, and had done all she could to assist them.

Mr. Terrell took into account that he had been in prison for four months, and his understanding never came consciously to his mind.

Mr. Gibbons said Davies had not been in love with him. She loved him as she could not to have done. He now realises she did wrong.

The announcement that Davies' affection for his half-sister had ended had been to him. Mrs. Smith was made after the judge had ordered his return to the cells for a consultation with his barrister.

Sentencing Davies in six months' imprisonment, the judge took into account that he had been in prison for four months, and his understanding never came consciously to his mind.

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THE CHINA MAIL, MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1946.

WHAT THE WORLD WAS COMING TO...

"I don't know what the world's coming to," said the rich anarchist.

"Nor do I," said the other rich anarchist.

"You can't do a single thing you want to do without going cap. in hand to some miserable little Government official."

"And what a Government, too."

"Look at the plans for my little place in the country. I've cut the bedrooms down from 14 to 12 and still I can't get a building licence. What am I to do?"

"Go into the black market, I suppose."

"There you are. That's how the Government demoralises you when you want to be honest. Controls make criminals of us all."

"Decent men driven to bribery and corruption."

"You can't even get a seven-course dinner unless you bribe somebody."

"My wife hands the grocer £5 a week."

"Yet they give more meat to the miners."

"Which is only another bribe to make them work."

"That's the trouble today. Nobody wants to work."

"All the working classes want now is something for nothing. 'And houses built for them.' 'And to be pampered in their old age.'

"I wonder what they'd say if I took profits from my company and didn't even ring up my secretary every morning?"

"I wonder how they'd like it if we went on strike?"

"After all, people like us GIVE something to the world."

"And all we get are controls."

"Rather than have this Government, I'd have no Government at all."

"Without a Government you could at least do as you like."

"Eat what you like, wear what you like, and build what you like."

"And let those who can't afford it go without."

"It's their own fault if they can't afford it."

"They don't want to work."

"If I can't make as much as I like and do what I like with it I shall give up work myself."

"So shall I. And live on my capital."

"After all, if you can't build a little place in the country with only 12 bedrooms and with your own money, what can you do?"

"And if you can't get a seven-course dinner without bribery?"

"I don't know what the world's coming to," said the rich anarchist.

"Nor do I," said the other rich anarchist.

"At that moment the super atomic bomb fell. The earth rocked, the heavens swayed, and a white-hot tempest shrivelled them to ashes and the whole world with them."

Social

"I don't know what the world's coming to," said the ancient bishop. "I really don't."

"Nor do I," said the other ancient bishop. "It's all rather dreadful."

"So far as young people are concerned, moral values simply do not exist."

"It was much the same after the 1914-18 war, only not quite so bad."

"Most people seem to think that war is an excuse for bad behavior, for the relaxation of moral discipline, for displaying virtue and for self-indulgence. I don't think we behaved very badly during or after the South African War."

"No, we did not. Except for Mafeking night, which was an excusable demonstration of joy and relief among anxious civilians, we behaved very well indeed, though some of the lower orders became rather intoxicated."

"I heard that even the dear Queen took a glass of sherry that night."

"I believe she did. God bless her."

"And although I was only a curate at the time, I distinctly remember having a glass of claret with my mother. It was most enjoyable."

"I'm sure it was. And very proper, too, on such an occasion—especially with your mother. I drank a pint of porter myself—with a cabman."

"A pint? With a cabman? Really."

"I could see no harm in it, although I was a young curate, not soon forget."

Besides, London was very gay at the time—and we are all equal in the sight of God, are we not?"

"Of course, of course."

"And he was a very civil fellow. Very civil and most respectful."

"That's the trouble with the world today. No respect for the cloth!"

"You're quite right, my dear bishop. That's the root of the whole trouble. Of course, one realises that recent wars have had more effect on people than the South African War, when there were no hardships for anybody, but the gallant fellows at the front. But hardship is no excuse for cynicism."

"Certainly not. Past experience has shown that the greater the hardships the more people turn to religion. The greater the suffering, the greater the need for spiritual consolation."

"But instead of turning to religion they now turn to politics. They vote Socialist because they believe it to be practical Christianity."

"They do not believe the Church will help them any more. They put their trust in politicians."

"Only the other day a young fellow said to me, 'If we don't like the Government we can turn it out; but if we don't like you, we can't do anything about it.'"

"A maid I had told my husband of for being late and asked him where he'd been. She said, 'Don't give me that stuff about being kept late at the office.'"

"If a maid said a thing like that to my husband, I'd be suspicious."

"I was and fired her that evening. It was the first time I've fired a maid since 1939."

"It must have been a great pleasure."

"It was, but it meant doing all the washing up for weeks and weeks. And all the sweeping and cleaning."

"And scrubbing and making the beds and cooking."

"And shopping and trying to charm the butcher in shabby clothes without time to cope with your face."

"That's the trouble today, no time to do anything but house-work."

"No time to dress nicely if you had anything to wear."

"No time for a hair-do; no time for a facial."

"At an age when we need it most."

"I wonder our husbands come home at all."

"If I'd known I was going to be turned into a middle-aged household drudge I would have remained single."

"So would I, in a bachelor flat with no housework."

"And sardines on toast for supper."

"I don't know what the world's coming to," said the sulky matron.

"Nor do I," said the other sulky matron.

"At that moment a little old woman with a foreign accent opened a bag of germs in a quiet country lane and within a week the two sulky matrons and every living thing in the world were dead."

DOMESTIC

"I don't know what the world's coming to," said the sulky matron. "I really don't."

"Nor do I," said the other sulky matron.

"My last pair of nylons had

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

The Authority on Authorities

DON'T WASTE AN HONOR

There are two kinds of situations in which a declarer should lead a queen or jack from one hand instead of a small card for a finesse against the king. One is when his holdings include any other important intermediate or intermediates such as the 10 or the 10 and 9. The other is when his play of the Q Having discarded a heart from dummy and a diamond from his own hand on the fourth spade, he saw that his sole remaining chance was to shut out the club J. He decided the best chance for that was to find it in a hand containing three, instead of a finesse against it. But, as the cards lay, no play makes you use up two cards unnecessarily to take one trick.

Correct technique with the diamond finesse would have made his contract. That would have been to lead a small one and finesse the J. Then lay down the A and hope the K was now singleton. That would have worked, leaving his diamond Q good.

There was something to gain and absolutely nothing to lose by playing the diamonds that way.

Tomorrow's Problem

S. 10 5 4
H. K. 9 6
D. Q. 7 8
C. K. Q 10 6

S. K. J 9 6 N. A. 3 2
H. 10 8 4 W. E. H. 7 5 3 2
D. 8 8 5. S. D. K. 10
C. 9 5 2 S. C. J. 7 4 3

S. Q. 3 7
H. A. Q. J.
D. A. J. 4 2
C. A. 8

(Dealer: East. East-West vulnerability.)

East: South: West: North:
Pass: 1 D. Pass: 2 C.
Pass: 2 NT. Pass: 3 NT.

West led the spade 5 to the A and the returned spade enabled the defense to have the first four tricks in a hurry, so that South had to get the rest of them. He won the next lead of a heart in the dummy and then went after the diamond finesse on which the contract depended. But he did it in the wrong way, and right there learned a lesson he will not soon forget.

(Dealer: West. Both sides vulnerable.)

If West leads a club at every opportunity, how should South play to make 4-Hearst?

CARNIVAL



By Dick Turner

Life Of An Ex-King In Exile

(By Louis C. Lupi)

These once proud homes range from palaces with 50 bedrooms that cost up to several hundred thousand dollars down to smaller showplaces of only 20 rooms or so, priced around \$50,000.

Real estate dealers say that they have scores of these properties, listed on their books. There are no sales because no one is able to afford the use of them as residences.

"The larger houses would need servants of anything up to 100 servants or more to run them, properly," they said. "Some of them have been empty so long that they would need extensive major repairs costing thousands."

"Others were

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COLONY COURIERS?

DANGER SPOTS

Shannon Airport, Dec. 28. Amid scenes reminiscent of a battlefield Irish Army emergency crews tonight drove away in lorries the bodies of twelve people—mostly French or American—killed when the Paris-New York Constellation airliner "Star of Cairo" crashed on a lonely island in Fergus Island near this airport. All day rescue squads toiled knee deep in treacherous bog mud to extricate the dead and injured passengers and the crew of the airliner, totalling 23, which exploded with a blinding flash before bursting into flames on the island early today.

The airport doctor, James O'Boyle, who lost his shoes in the mud, treated the injured as they lay where the explosion had flung them before they could be removed to hospital. Local boatmen brought from their beds ferried the victims in flat bottomed vessels to the mainland where they were carried across a further stretch of marshland to ambulances and lorries.

One of the first on the scene, Michael Donellan, servant boy at a nearby farm, tonight told a graphic story of the early hours after the crash. "After a great explosion", he said, "I ran to the scene, scrambling across mud and through the river. I was horrified when I fell over a dead man who had been blown 76 yards from the wreckage. I was making in the direction from which the cries of a baby had been coming, when I fell over several injured people who were moaning."

Blown Clean Out
Donellan said that he found the four and a half months old baby, Charles Delaby, nestling in the rushes by the riverside. The baby had been blown clean out of the aircraft. "As I got to it, an air hostess, Catherine Ferguson, herself injured, took the baby in her arms. Still clutching it, she attempted to attend to the injured", he added.

One of the dead was a young woman whose mink coat was bloodstained.

An air expert said tonight: "It would appear that those who had their safety belts tied were the ones who were lacerated from the hips."

Air hostess Ferguson was the first survivor to reach Shannon airport. She still had baby Delaby in her arms. He had a broken thigh, his face was covered in mud, but is expected to survive.

Herself covered in mud and suffering from shock and abrasions, Ferguson said: "We had just told the passengers to fasten their safety belts and prepare for landing when the crash occurred. That is the last I remember until I got out of the aircraft. The last thing the baby's mother asked while I was there was how the baby was."

Blinding Flash
Mrs. Delaby, who received burns and injuries to her lower limbs, was flying to join her United States soldier husband in New York.

Night workers at the airport said that the explosion "shook the very foundations of the airport buildings" and occurred simultaneously with a great blinding flash which rose in red flames to a height of several hundred feet.

The injured were taken to St. John's Hospital and Barrington Hospital in Limerick and to Clare County Hospital, Ennis.

Trans-world Airways at Shannon gave the following details of the nine passengers who were killed: French, Salabert, French, music publisher and composer, 21 Avenue D'lena, Paris; Marie Zelaznagora, French, of New York, mother of a 12-year-old boy who survived; Maurice Simon Picard,

Another Crash
Michigan City, Indiana, Dec. 28. An American Airlines plane crashed today three miles

Moslem
Action In
Punjab

New York, Dec. 28. The newspaper PM, in a world affairs prediction for 1947 by editorial Max Werner, asserts there are two danger spots in view for next year. One is in China, with the possibility of protracted civil war and large scale military operations.

The other danger spot is in the settlement of the atomic energy disputes between Russia and the United States, which may persist even after a full disarmament agreement is reached. United Press.

Calcutta, Dec. 28. The Moslem League is planning to set up a "parallel Government" in the Punjab, the newspaper "Statesman" reported.

The Punjab is regarded by the League as the "centre-piece of Pakistan" (separate Moslem state in India) and is governed at present by a coalition ministry headed by the Unionist Party leader, Sir Khiz Hyat Khan Tiwana. The Congress Party is represented in the coalition and the Moslem League, the largest single party in the Assembly, is in opposition.

The aircraft crashed after the pilot had sent a wireless message saying that he was having trouble with both engines of the machine. Reuter.

**POWER CUTS
WARNING**

Hamburg, Dec. 28. A warning of possible power cuts in Hamburg industries was given today by Herr Borgner, member of the Hamburg Senate in charge of Economic Affairs.

He said the supplies of Hamburg power station will be exhausted within five or six days.

They had already had to start digging into their reserves.

Addressing city officials, Herr Borgner said that households must have absolute priority and therefore it might be necessary to make a partial or total power cut in certain industries. Reuter.

The names of the people who pay these levies are to be published in a "special roll of honour", the report added. Reuter.

Next Year May Be
Golden Year

London, Dec. 28. If Russia has decided that in the coming year she is to march in friendship and common purpose with Britain and America, 1947 may well take its place in history as one of the golden years, declares an editorial in today's Sunday Express.

"Soviet Russia, after what has seemed to the Western Democracies long hesitation and often inexplicable obduracy, is moving into step with us down the long road to peace and a world restored, re-energised and sane," the editorial says.

Recalling that a month ago the New York Foreign Ministers meeting was deadlocked, the editorial says: "Suddenly, in a matter of hours, the Russian attitude changed. A spirit of friendliness and co-operation was born. Within days, the conference that seemed doomed to failure was able to conclude the five peace treaties with Germany's former satellite states and to fix Moscow as the place for its next meeting in March to tackle the all important problem of Germany's future."

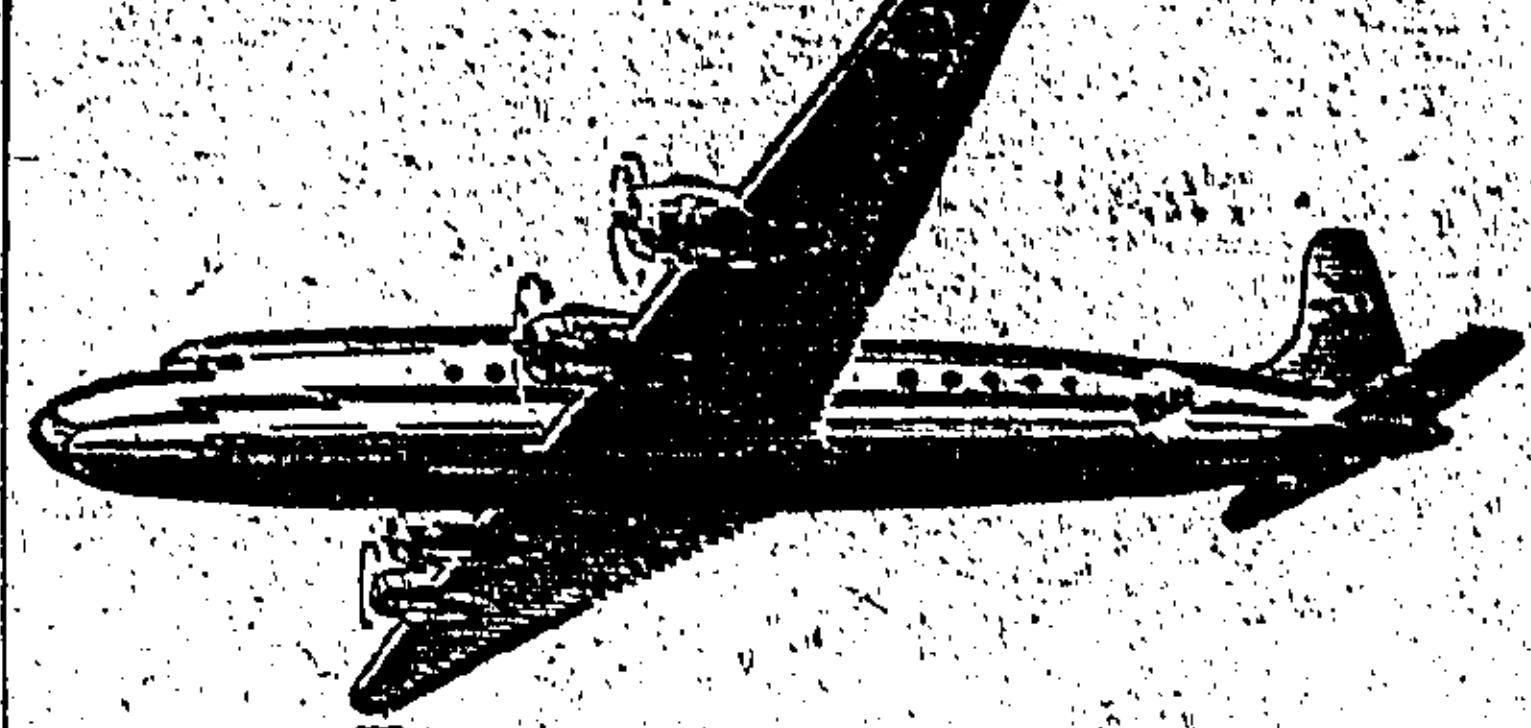
"Who made that tremendous change possible? M. Vyshinsky has revealed that it was Marshal Stalin who directed the delegation's every move. The change of policy which means so much for the future of men and men."

"And what follows? An invitation to Field Marshal Montgomery to visit Russia and study the Red Army, around which so much mischievous mystery has developed."

"Further there are also clear signs that Stalin does not intend the Moscow conference to end in failure. Closer co-operation in Germany is already developing. Russia is now showing an inclination to meet the views of the Western Allies who shared victory with her and with her must also shape the future."

"It is the hope of all of us

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Food Riots In Italy

Rome, Dec. 28. Food riots spread to the small town of Palmi, in the toe of the Italian boot, as reports reached Rome—crippled by a sellers' strike—of general strikes called in Cosenza and Paola, Bari, the scene of yesterday's violent demonstrations, was quiet tonight but a group of veterans was reported to have seized an electric power plant at Naples, demanding to be employed.

Today a mob of 2,000 carrying red flags stormed the railway station at Palmi, overcame police and railroad personnel, blocked off the tracks with large boulders and seized a dozen freight cars laden with food for other towns. Three cars loaded with flour were taken to the Palmi communal granaries for equal distribution to the populace.

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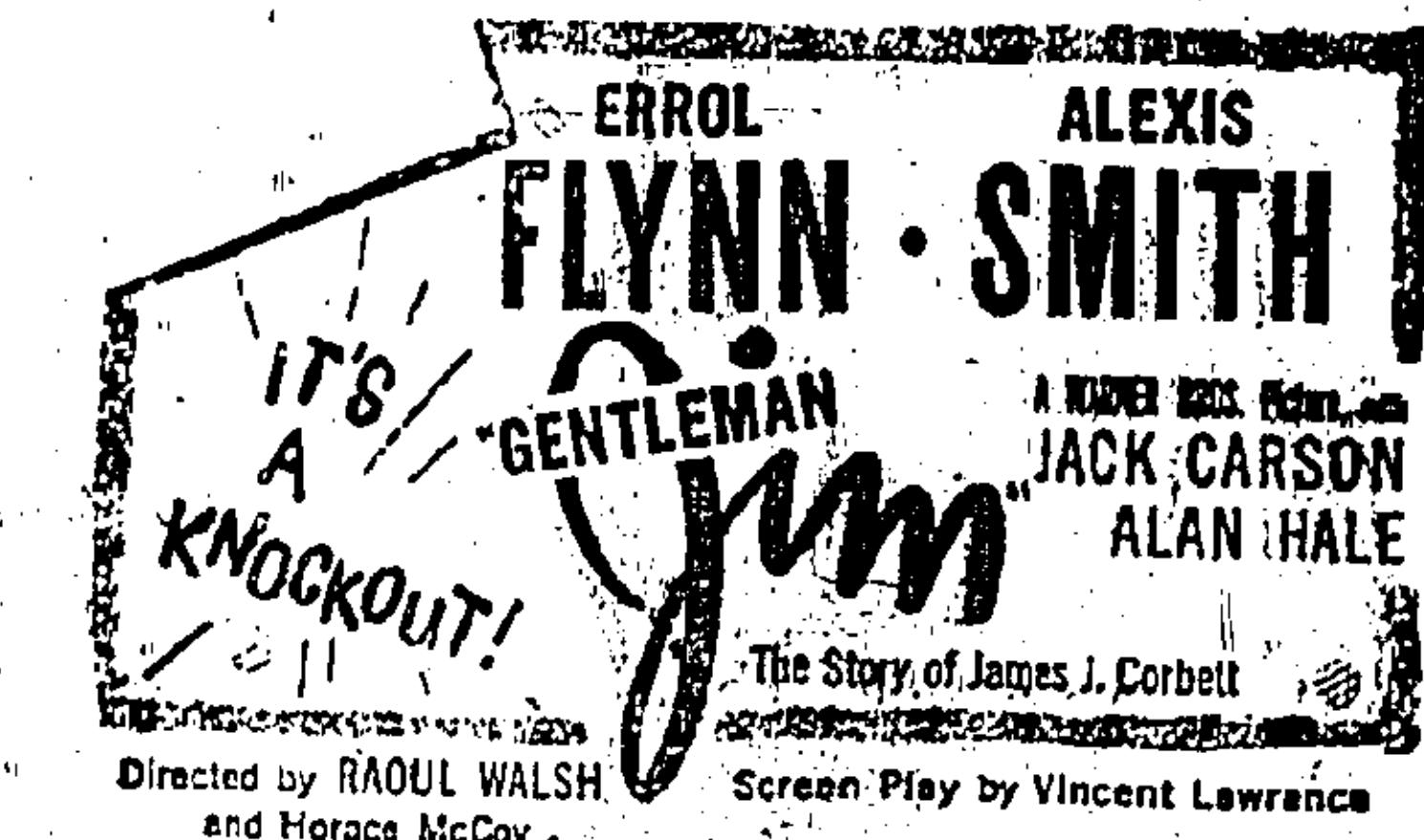
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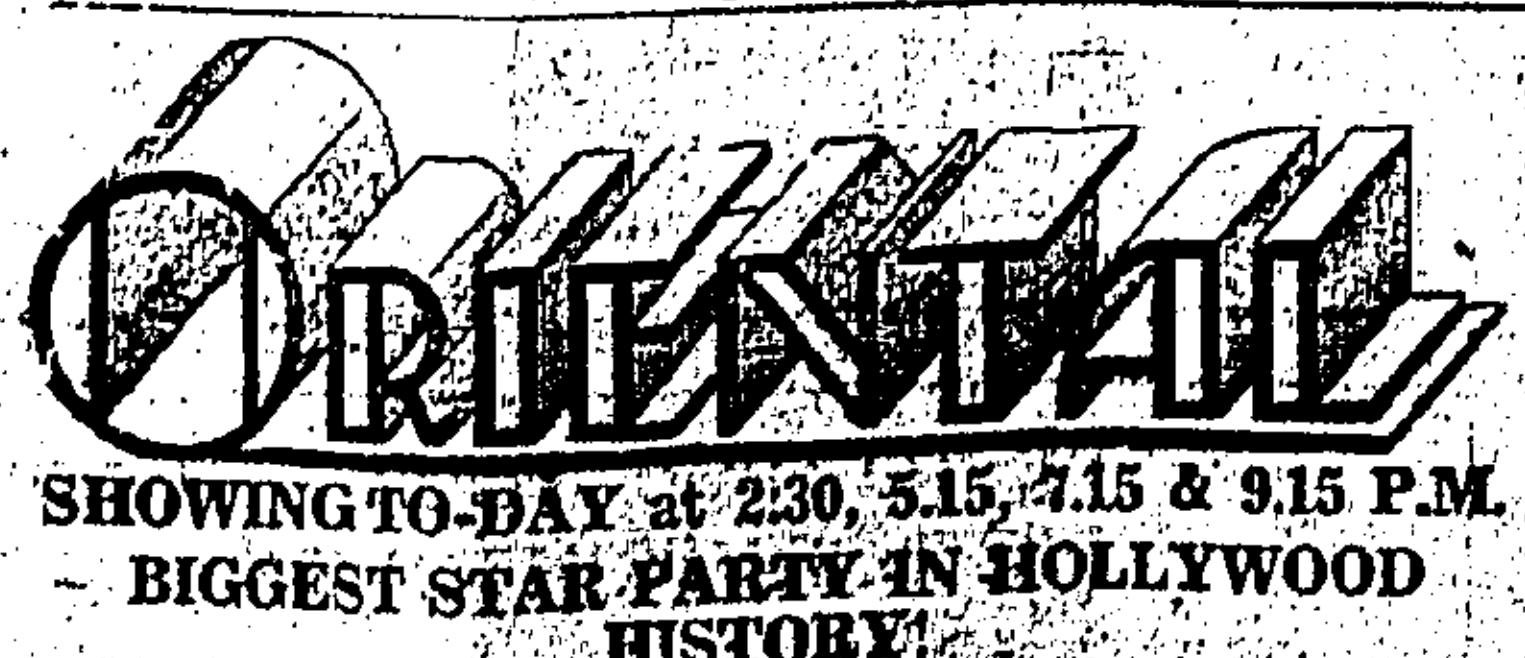
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RACE TO GRAB LAND IN ANTARCTIC WASTES

London, Dec. 28. Eight powers will join in an "international race" to Antarctica in the hope of finding deposits of uranium, coal and possibly gold, which may be hidden under the south polar ice-cap, the Sunday Times correspondent reports from Sydney.

The Australian Government is joining the race, which may develop into the world's last great rush by the major powers to divide the resources of a new continent, the correspondent adds.

Great Britain and the United States, he points out, have already expeditions in the field, and Russia, Argentina, South Africa, Chile and Norway are reported to be planning further expeditions.

The Australian Government has decided to send a naval-scientific expedition in the New Year, complete with aircraft for observation and mapping. Long-term scientific observations will be undertaken within 2,500,000 square miles of Aus-

36 HOURS IN AIR BUBBLE

Moscow, Dec. 28. Two workers, Boev and Timichev, lived 36 hours in an air bubble formed in one of the tubes when a dredge capsized in a heavy storm near Komsomol'sk on the Amur River.

Diver Andrii Fomenko finally reached the men, helped them into diving helmets and brought them to the surface. — United Press.

This white, silent wasteland is still almost completely unexplored, but scientists have reason to believe that deposits of uranium, coal and possibly gold may be hidden under the ice," the correspondent says.

"Well-informed Australian sources tell me that despite any official denials, there is an international race to the South now of really historic proportions. Thus eight teams of

geologists, meteorologists and

polar experts will be operating simultaneously in territory that had been virtually ignored until uranium assumed such tremendous international importance during the war."

It is asked if it is logical that eight world powers should simultaneously develop such interest in south polar meteorology as to organise expensive expeditions there, the correspondent says.

— United Press.

Vitally Important

Authoritative opinion is that the reasons are:

Firstly, uranium's vital importance.

Secondly, development for the first time of scientific methods and instruments that make prospecting feasible.

Thirdly, development of cold-weather mining methods that would permit exploitation of any discoveries.

After saying that apart from minerals Australia is becoming increasingly aware, as are also Britain and the United States, of the value of the Antarctic whaling industry, the correspondent adds that plans are being considered by the Australian Cabinet which would entail the bringing to Australia of trained Scandinavian crews to provide the nucleus of an efficient whaling industry. — Reuter.

— United Press.

BOMBAY SILVER AND GOLD

Bombay, Dec. 28. Silver, ready 164 rupees, 60 annas per 100 tolas, forward (Jan. 7 settlement) 146.00 (Mar. 7 settlement) unquoted; Gold, delivery 102.94 per tola, forward 99.08, Sovereigns 65.08 each. — Reuter.

ARGENTINE GOLD

Buenos Aires, Dec. 28. Sovereigns, buyers 62.00, sellers 63.00; U.S. \$20.00, buyers 122.00, sellers 113.00; Gold, bar, per gramme, buyers 5.33, sellers 5.37. — Reuter.

— United Press.

TRADE TREATY

London, Dec. 28. A trade agreement has been concluded between Turkey and Finland, under which Finland will supply Turkey with paper, cellulose, pre-fabricated houses, sports goods and chemicals, while Turkey supplies tobacco, oilseeds, hides, wool, mohair and hemp. Ankara radio reported tonight. — Reuter.

— United Press.

CHICAGO GRAINS

Chicago, Dec. 28. Small, but persistent, selling caused fractional losses in grains although January wheat displayed resistance on the basis of Government buying. Wheat finished unchanged to 1/8 cent lower, January \$2.11 1/4, March \$2.01 1/4, May \$1.91 1/4. Corn 2 to 1 cent lower, oats 1/2 cent lower. — Associated Press.

— United Press.

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m.v. "Bengal"	16th Jan.	S. Frisco	(Discharging Only)
m.v. "Travancore"	15th Feb.	S. Frisco	(Discharging Only)

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"KWEIYANG"	Bangkok, 2 p.m. 1st Jan.
"ANHUI"	Anoy & Swatow, 7 a.m. 2nd Jan.
"HANYANG"	Shanghai, 4 p.m. 2nd Jan.
"NEWCHWANG"	Singapore & Penang, 4 p.m. 6th Jan.
"NINGHAI"	Saigon & Singapore, 4 p.m. 6th Jan.

ARRIVALS FROM

"HUIPEH"	Tientsin, 31st Dec.
"SHANTUNG"	Swatow, 1st Jan.
"ANHUI"	Singapore & Holloway, 1st Jan.
"FUKIEN"	Java & Singapore, 3rd Jan.
"NEWCHWANG"	Swatow, 5th Jan.

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"TATSHAN"	Arrives 1 p.m. 30th Dec.
	Sails 6 a.m. 2nd Jan.
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Agents: BLUE FUNNEL LINE

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Arriving From
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Sailing	For
2nd week Jan.	Sydney, Melbourne

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M.V. "MONGABARRE" early February 1947

M.V. "WINGNES" late February 1947

M.V. "VITO" early March 1947

M.V. "VILJA" late March 1947

M.V. "PARRAMATTA" late April 1947

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Growing U.S. Merchant Fleet Reserve

N.Y. Stock Market

The United States reserve fleet now totals 1,717 merchant ships laid up against future emergencies, considerably more than the entire American tonnage used in domestic and foreign trade before the war, the Maritime Commission disclosed today.

Although the reserve is not yet as large as the military service want, its rapid growth since the war ended indicates, some shipping sources said, that the Government may not be selling ships as fast as it had expected under the ship sales act of 1946.

The vessels are laid up in anchorages on the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific coasts. Some are overage, some are not needed, some will be sold. The bulk will remain permanently in reserve.

None may be withdrawn after Dec. 31, 1947, under the terms of the sales law.

The Commission said that 99 ships were added to the fleet and 77 withdrawn in the month ending Nov. 16. Those withdrawn presumably were returned to Government service, sold or chartered.

Closing quotations: Alaska, Juneau 54. American, 154. American Smelting 58. American Telephone 163. American Tobacco 82. American Waterworks 174. Anacrusa, Cooper 40. Aviation Corporation 61. Baldwin Locomotive 23. Barnard 23. Bendix 37. Bell Telephone 21. Canadian Pacific 12. Case 35. Chrysler 95. Colgate 16. Commercial Solvents 22. Corn Products 73. Dugay 16. Eastman Kodak 22. General Electric 35. General Motors 62. Goodrich 61. Good 54. Homestake Mining 24. International Harvester 73. International Paper 62. International Tel & Tel 16. Johns Manville 130. Mennecot 20. Montgomery Ward 60. National Laboratories 22. New York Central 18. Pabco Motors 63. Pan American Airways 12. Pan American Corporation 9. Republic Steel 21. Reynolds Tobacco 41. Schenley 57. Sears 28. Shell Oil 23. Sociedad Vacunas 143. Pacific 46. Standard Brands 35. Standard Oil of Calif. 68. Standard Oil of N.J. 68. Studebaker 20. Union Carbide 52. U.S. Rubber 50. U.S. Steel 75. Westinghouse 67. —Associated Press.

Drop Expected

They expect the total in operation to drop off in another year or two, in contrast with wartime predictions of Government officials that the United States might have a 15,000,000 (m.) ton or larger Merchant Marine.

In addition to what they termed a slower than expected rate of Government ship sales, they cited these reasons: UNRRA shipments will be about finished by the end of this year, the Army's big shipping programmes will end in about 22 months, and there is uncertainty about the future of foreign purchases which now are financed largely by American loans.

For these reasons, American shippers have been indifferent about purchasing and recovering ships—United Press.

INVESTIGATION OF
COMMISSION

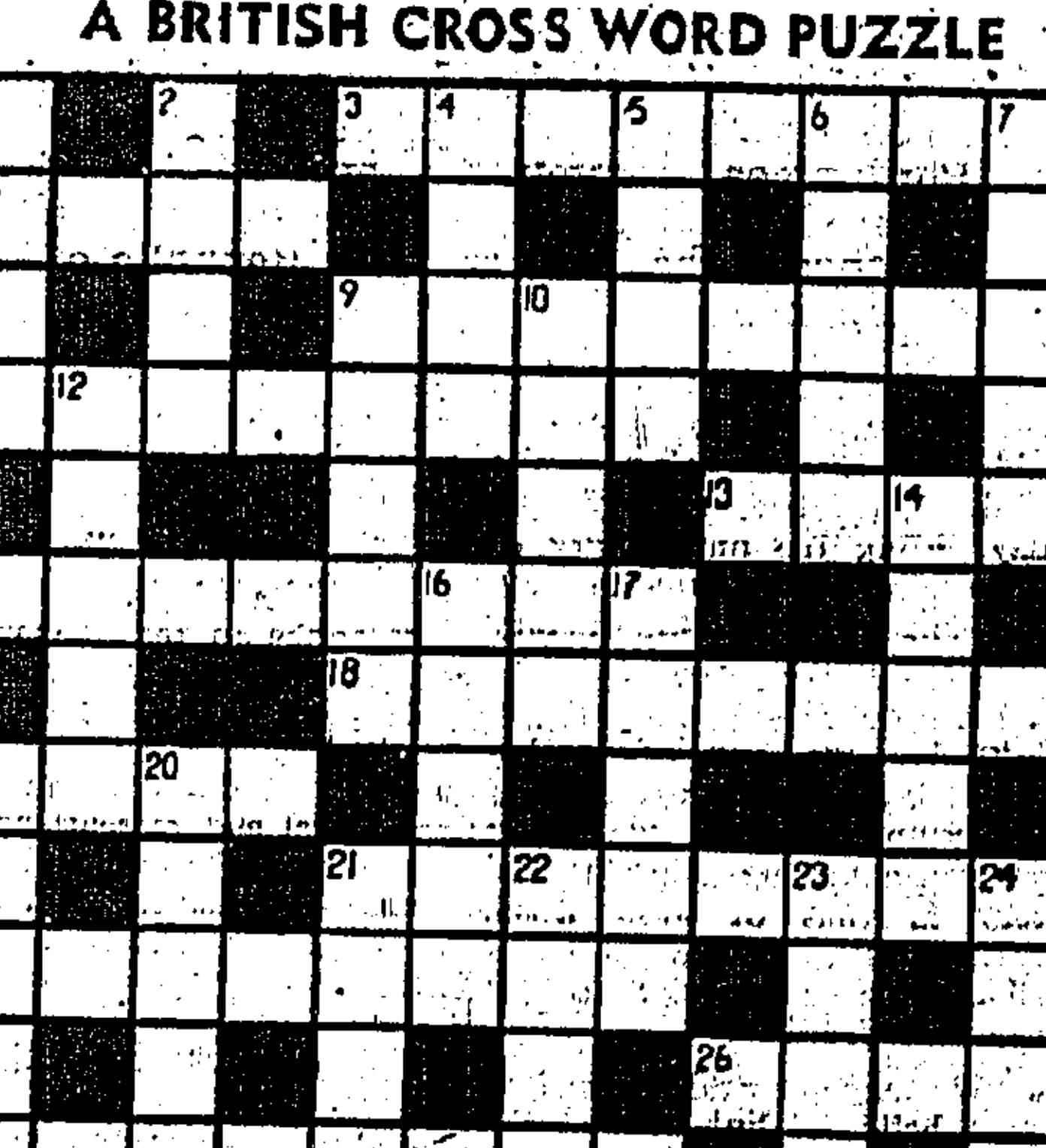
Washington, Dec. 29. Groundwork for a full dress investigation of the \$1,000,000,000 expenditures of the United States Maritime Commission has been laid by Republicans in the House of Representatives.

Party members disclosed that one of the first things of the day will be a demand when the new Congress convenes Jan. 3 that

ZURICH FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Zurich, Dec. 29. Zurich on London 13.35, New York 4.30, Brussels 9.87, Amsterdam 16.20, Lisbon 13.12, Buenos Aires 16.25, Stockholm 11.02, Madrid 21.75. —Reuter.

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

- Impenetrable sound.
- Large enclos. 18. Made a sort of ground.
- Sort.
- Consisting of 21. Cement, several parts.
- Quick rejoiner.
26. White metal.
13. Gun.
15. Unvaried.
- Soldier.
- Geranium.
- Upgrade.
- Intense.
- Nailed.
- Strut.
- Imagined.
- Tulle.
- Slight.
- Diagonal.
- Box.
- Lightly.
- Black.
- Upright.
- Secret scheme.
- Root vegetable.
- Binding material.
- Period.
- Choose.
- Break out.
- Small nail.
- African ter.
- Sacred chant.
- territory.
- Quote.
- Close.
- Way out.
- Financial re- sources.
- Geranium.
- Upgrade.
- Intense.
- Nailed.
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- Imagined.
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- Sacred chant.
- territory.
- Quote.
- Close.
- Way out.
- Financial re- sources.

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CHINA'S BUDGET

Nanking, Dec. 29. The Supreme Defence Council meeting yesterday morning approved a budget for the next fiscal year which officially was estimated at C178,000,000,000.000. —three and a half times this year's expenditure. All details were kept secret. —United Press.

London Exchanges

London, Dec. 28.

The House Merchant Marine Com-

mittee was given authority to ex-

tend its Maritime activities.

While the committee has been

inquiry into the commission's

actions for many months, it has

not even scratched the surface,

said Representative Alvin F.

Weichel, Republican of Ohio, a

member of the House Merchant

Marine Committee in the

House of Representatives.

Welch and Bradley said

shipping profits and ship construction

investigations have not been com-

pleted and would be resumed

along with any other practices.—

Associated Press.

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